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House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m.

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer:
O Lord, our guardian and our refuge, in times of war it is difficult to pray. When living under the threat of attack, anxieties and fear can steal Your abiding presence.

At such times, there is so much to pray about. To lift up to You all the names of the victims of war is in itself a heavy task. To remember them in prayer keeps our love alive and unveils our mourning until we see them in Your eternal presence. Your spirit of prayer moves us to strengthen our compassion for all those orphaned and widowed by war. We pray for all who serve in the Armed Forces, those servants of security and defenders of freedom around the world. We pray for their safety and their families.

At such times, all leaders in our government, especially these Members of Congress, are in need of Your supreme guidance, Lord. May leaders of all nations be with them as they search for the ways to secure peace, to protect homelands and reconstruct those places torn apart by war's violence.

Lord, in moments like now when it is difficult to pray, perhaps it is because we cannot see Your face, for You are the author of life and love, now and forever. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. TIAHRT) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. TIAHRT led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

CONGRATULATING JENNIE WEISS BLOCK FOR HER NEW BOOK EXPLORING THEOLOGY AND THE DISABILITY MOVEMENT

(Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, it is estimated that there are 43 million Americans with one or more physical or mental disabilities. And while Congress attempts to empower them through legislation such as the Americans with Disabilities Act, it is often other facets of our communities, like churches and synagogues, that provide them with the support they need to achieve economic self-sufficiency, independent living, and, most importantly, inclusion and integration into all aspects of society.

My constituent, Jennie Weiss Block, a Barry University Ph.D. candidate in theology, is the author of a new book, "Copious Hosting," which explores theology and the disability movement. I proudly congratulate my constituent and dear friend, Jennie Weiss Block, for her insightful views into the lives of the disabled as portrayed in her book "Copious Hosting" and for her dedication to enabling them to make significant contributions to our society.

Felicitades, Jennie.

WE MUST BRING OUR CHILDREN HOME

(Mr. LAMPSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. LAMPSON. Mr. Speaker, every day for a year I spoke out on international child abduction. Today I will focus on one case, that of Ludwig Koons, who is being illegally kept in Rome, Italy. Until Ludwig is returned to the United States, I will speak with outrage at the injustice that is being done to this family, an example of what thousands of American parents and their children face every day.

Ludwig Koons was born in New York and was abducted from the family residence to Rome by his mother, Ilona Staller. Mr. Koons was awarded custody in the United States, but the Italian courts have refused to accept any American jurisdiction. The father has been deemed the fit parent by the courts, and U.S. and Italian psychologists have stated that Ludwig is in grave danger and must be returned to Mr. Koons. Yet he remains captive in Italy, being held by the Italian Government and by his mother, a porn star living in a pornographic compound.

Mr. Speaker, every day Members of this body and administration speak out on family values. I can think of no better way to demonstrate our commitment to family values than to return Ludwig Koons to his father now. Mr. Speaker, we must bring our children home.

VICTIMS OF TERRORISM

(Mr. TIAHRT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Speaker, before terrorism literally hit home on September 11, two fellow Kansans, two fellow Americans, had already been held hostage by Muslim terrorists for over 3 months. On May 27, 2001, Martin and Gracia Burnham were snatched out of bed in a Philippine vacation resort and taken hostage by Muslim terrorists, the Abu Sayaff group, which has al

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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